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Inventory for

Manuscript Collection
MS - 413

Joseph Cargill Papers

1849-1874

by
Elisabeth Meier
October 2018

2 folders
.1 linear feet
Accession nos. 78.113.2, 78.113.9, and 86.85.29.4

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Abstract

Cargill, Joseph, Captain (1798-1874)

Papers, 1849-1874

2 folders

Captain, farmer, brickmaker, and commission merchant from Newcastle, Maine.

This collection contains accounts, bills, and receipts paid by Joseph Cargill in Newcastle and Boston. Mostly domestic, they cover the sale of Cargill's Newcastle farm and brickyard, his move to Boston to establish himself as a merchant, and the furnishing of a house there in the early 1870s. The collection also includes material from settling Newcastle farmer Robert Murray's estate in 1859. There is little business material and no correspondence in the collection.

Museum purchase from William Hill, Gosshill Books, with a few papers given by Charles E. Burden.

MS-413. Accession #78.113.2, 78.113.9, and 86.85.29.4

Finding aid (folder level control) in repository.

Added entries—persons:

Cargill, Joseph, Captain (1798-1874)
Cargill, Joseph A. (1837-1865)
Murray, Robert (1787-1859)

Added entries—key terms:

Accounts, household
Administration of estates
Agriculture
Brickmaking
Furniture
Newcastle (Me.)

Acquisition

This collection was purchased from William Hill, of Gosshill Books, in 1978. It was part of a larger purchase that included the Captain Atwood B. Norton Papers (MS-42), the log-book and slop accounts of the schooner *M.V.B. Chase* (SM 52/1-2), Captain William Patterson Papers (MS-634), Schooner *Elizabeth Howard* Papers (MS-635), Captain Joseph Purington Account Book (MS-88 Box 5/21), Joseph Dodge papers (MS-636), and the Orrissa Willmarth Foster Sheppard papers (MS-637).

A separate gift from Charles E. Burden, which principally contained papers from Captain William Patterson, also had several documents from Joseph Cargill and Robert Murray. These have been added to this collection.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on this collection.

Physical Condition

The papers are in good condition apart from usual wear.

Historical Note

Joseph Cargill (1798-1874) lived most of his life in Newcastle, Maine. He went to sea as a young man, and was the captain and part-owner of at least one vessel, the schooner *Illuminator*, in the early 1820s. Cargill married Clarissa H. Delano in 1824. One of their sons, Joseph A. Cargill (1837-1865), was also a sailor; two others, Oscar D. (b. 1830) and Henry L. (b. 1845) became a doctor and a lawyer respectively. By 1850, Cargill himself was a farmer in Newcastle, and later that decade opened his own brickyard as well. He sold his farm and brickyard in 1864 and moved to Boston, where he became a commission merchant and specialized in importing hay to the city. He died in Boston in 1874, but is buried in Newcastle.

In 1859, Cargill served as the executor of the estate of Col. Robert Murray, another resident of Newcastle. Murray served in the War of 1812 as part of the town's regiment. After the war, he invested in local vessels and may have helped finance building new ones. His son, also named Robert Murray, was a shipmaster, but Murray listed himself as a farmer in the 1850 census.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains Joseph Cargill's bills and accounts from the late 1850s to the early 1870s. It covers Cargill's agricultural affairs in Newcastle, his move to Boston, and the furnishing of a house in there in the early 1870s. It also contains a brief description of the farm and brickyard, drawn up for the auction, and an 1865 inventory of the estate of Cargill's seafaring son, Joseph A. Cargill. The bulk of the material is domestic and quotidian, and business affairs are mentioned briefly if at all. There is no correspondence in the collection.

A second folder contains bills, accounts, and receipts from the settlement of Robert Murray's estate. These include accounts for food, clothing, blacksmithing, farm labor, and other daily affairs, some dating back nearly a decade, which Murray had not settled before his death. There is also record of a lien placed on Murray's property by Lot M. Hutch, a ship carpenter, over bills for work done in 1852. The rest of the material is domestic.

Box and Folder List

Box	Folder	
1	1	Joseph A. Cargill, papers, 1849-1874
	2	Robert Murray estate, Joseph A. Cargill executor, 1844-1862